THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of the present incumbents holding the post of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Members are given in the enclosed Statement. *(See* below) The Income-tax Settlement Commission is a permanent Commission charged with the responsibility of Settlement of cases under Chapter XIX-A of the Income-tax act, 1961 and Chapter V-A of Wealth Tax Act, 1957.

(c) The total number of applications filed before the Commission from the date of its inception upto 31.10.1998 is 10,681. The amount collected on admission of applications from financial year 1990-91 to 31.10.1998 is Rs. 212 crores.

(d) 8591 cases have been decided/ settled upto 31.10.1998. In the settled cases an amount of Rs. 217 crores was collected/collectible from financial year 1990-91 to 1996-97.

Statement

	S/Shri	
1.	N.K. Nayak	Chairman
2.	G.S. Sindhu	Vice Chairman
3.	S.K. Lal	Vice Chairman
4.	S. Govindarajan	Vice Chairman
5.	B.P. Gupta	Member
6.	A.K. Batabayal	Member
7.	D. Lakshminarayana	Member
8.	N.C. Jain	Member
9.	K.P. Singh	Member
10.	Amitava Chatterjee	Member
11.	P. Radhakrishnan	Member
12.	K. Subramaniam	Member

Disclosure of the Details of VDIS Declarants

2528. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount declared and tax received under VDIS;

(b) whether Government would disclose the details of individual declarants under VDIS to any other Government Department or any individual; if so, in what circumstances; and

(c) whether Government consider VDIS details to be completely secret?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) The amount of income declared under VDIS is Rs. 33,289.67 crores and the taxes received under VDIS is Rs. 9,745.52 crores.

(b) According to the provisions of Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme, 1997, the particulars contained in any declaration can be disclosed only to any officer employed in the execution of the Income Tax Act or the Wealth-tax Act or to any officer appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India or the Board to audit income-tax receipts or refunds.

(c) Excepting the authorities mentioned in reply to Para (b) of the question, the VDIS details are not to be disclosed to any other authorities.

Uniform Rate of Sales Tax

2529. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce uniform rate of sales tax;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also proposed to phase out Central Sales tax by the year 2000; and

(d) if so, the reaction of State Governments thereto?